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THE
Briſtol Fratricide:

Being an Exact and Impartial

NARRATIVE

Of the Horrid and Dreadful

CATASTROPHE

OF

Sir *John Dineley Goodere*, Bart.

(*Price* 6d.)

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Of the Horrid and Dreadful

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OF

Sir *John Dineley Goodere*, Bart.

Perpetrated by the

Contrivance, Aſſiſtance, and Encouragement of his Brother

Samuel Goodere, Eſq;

Commander of the *Ruby* Man of War,

And Executed by

Matthew Mahony and *Charles White*,

Now in Cuſtody for the ſame.

In which is contained

Some ACCOUNT of the Life of the Deceaſed Sir *John Dineley Goodere*, Bart.

The whole being a faithful Account of this Tragical Affair.

Collected from Affidavits and other authentick Vouchers.

LONDON: Printed by J. HART in *Poppins-Alley, Fleet-Street.* 1741.

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THE
Briſtol Fratricide.

MURDER is a Crime ſo heinous, ſo abominable both in the ſight of God and Man, that Nature itſelf ſeems to ſtart at it. It is a violent Breach of that Divine Law, *Thou ſhalt do no Murder*. The Heathens puniſhed it in the ſevereſt Manner: Blood for Blood was and is the general Cry of all Nations. Thus much, and a great deal more, may be ſaid of Murder in general; but if we deſcend to Aggravations, and conſider it as diſſolving the Ties of Kindred and Conſanguinity, it will ſtill raiſe in us a greater Degree of Horror. When a Brother riſes up againſt a Brother, and murders him in cold Blood, the very Thought is ſo ſhocking that Nature itſelf is hardly able to ſupport it.

So

So heavy did the Weight of this Sin fall upon *Cain*, that, after he was made ſenſible of the Heinouſneſs of his Crime, he was afraid that every one that met him ſhould know him for a Murderer, and execute Juſtice upon him. How hardened, how inſenſible muſt the Conſcience of Capt. *Goodere*, the Subject of this Story, be, that could be quite deaf to the lamentable and paſſionate Cries of his Brother, ſtruggling with two bloody mercenary Villains, who were then ſtriving to take away his Life! That Man muſt, in my Opinion, have taken ſome Pains to fortify himſelf againſt all the Tenderneſſes of Nature, who could hear his Brother calling to him in the very Agonies of Death for Help and Aſſiſtance, without a word of Anſwer, much leſs of Relief. Yet this was the Caſe of this bloody and inhuman Captain, who, to gratify a Revenge he had conceived againſt his Brother for ſome Prejudice he thought Sir *John* had done him in ſettling his Eſtate, would have no other Satisfaction of him but his Death, and utter Deſtruction of his Brother. But I ſhall have ſo much Occaſion to enlarge upon all theſe Particulars in the following Hiſtory, that it would be foreſtalling the Reader to give any more of it by Way of Preface.

It muſt be obſerved, that for ſome Time paſt Sir *John Dinely Goodere*, and his Brother Capt. *Samuel Goodere*, had been at Variance;

the Occaſion of which was a Report that Sir *John* had cut off the Entail of his Eſtate, except 600 *l. per Annum*, which he could not meddle with, in order to ſettle it on his Siſter's Sons. What Quarrels and Contentions paſt between the two Brothers on this Occaſion, ſo as to raiſe ſuch a Spirit of inveterate Hatred in the Captain, does not yet appear; but ſo it happened, that on *Tueſday*, *January* 24, the City of *Briſtol* was alarmed by the Outcry of a Murder, committed by *Samuel Goodere*, Eſq; Commander of the *Ruby* Man of War, on the Body of his own Brother, Sir *John Dinely Goodere*, Bart. of *Charlton*, the Seat of that Family near *Eveſham* in *Worceſterſhire*, a Gentleman of an Eſtate of 3000 *l. per Annum*, and both Sons of the late Sir *John Goodere*, of *Burghope* in *Hereſordſhire*, Bart.

We have endeavoured to collect with the utmoſt Care all the Circumſtances relating to this moſt horrid Scene; and they appear as follows. On the *Sunday* before this Tragedy happened, Sir *John* had an Appointment to dine with one Mr. *Smith*, an Attorney at Law, in *College-Green*, *Briſtol*. His Brother, the Captain, being apprized of it, forecaſted to dine near at hand; and after Dinner interceeded with Mr. *Smith*, to admit him into Company with his Brother, in order, as he pretended, to accommodate their Differences in an amicable Manner.

Mr.

Mr. [illegible] was ſo extremely pleaſed with the Propoſal, that he conſented to it without Heſitation; and ſo cunningly did the Captain play his Part, that they were ſeemingly as good Friends as ever; for juſt as Sir *John* was about to go, the Captain took his Leave of him in the moſt friendly and affectionate Manner imaginable.

Sir *John* was not got quite ſo far as *College-Green* Coffee-Houſe, before he was ſeized on by the *Irish* Ruffians Sailors belonging to the *Pearnot* Schooner. Theſe Fellows, 'tis ſuppoſed, were hired and directed by the Captain, to be ready at Hand; for as ſoon as Sir *John* came within their reach, he gave them the Word of Command; upon which they immediately ruffled on him, and dragged him along towards the Rope-Walk, where was a Gang of ten or twelve more, all of the ſame Country, who lay there ready to receive him according to the Captain's Inſtructions, who had promiſed them all a handſome Reward. Sir *John* being thus in the Hands of theſe fifteen or eighteen Villains, is hurried along towards Hot-Well, where was a Boat ready prepared to receive him. It was taken Notice, that as he was carried along, he was heard to cry out Murder!— Murder!— I am Sir *John Dinely Goodere*; but was interrupted by his Brother's ſtopping his Mouth with his Cloak; and the People not knowing him by Name, they only

only asked, What was the Matter? The Answer given by the Captain, &c. was, That he was a Thief, and a Murderer, had made his Escape from the Ship, and that they were going to take him on Board to secure him, in order for his Trial; still stopping his Mouth to prevent his crying out.

After they had got him into the Boat, he had a little more Liberty than before, which he made use of to speak to his Brother to this Effect: *Brother, I know you have an Intention to murder me; I beg that if you are resolved to do it, that you will do it here, and not give yourself the Trouble of taking me down to your Ship* (which then lay at *King-Road*, within the Liberty of the City and County of *Briſtol*.) To which the Captain replied after this Manner: *No, Brother; I am going to prevent your putting upon Land; but, however, would have you make your Peace with God this Night*; and ſo without more Ceremony hurried him on board his Ship. He took the Precaution however to tell the Crew, *That they muſt not mind his Noiſe, becauſe he was mad, and that he had brought him on board on purpoſe to prevent his hurting himſelf or others*; and ſo conveyed him into the Purſer's Cabin, where they kept him till towards five or ſix o' Clock in the Morning. The Gang of Villains who took him were all ſent aſhore to conceal themſelves, and keep out of the Way of Enquiry. The Captain however had taken care to have all

board *Mahony* and *White*, the two Villains with whom he had bargain'd for this moſt nefarious Jobb. The Price of Sir *John*'s Blood was, that *Mahony* ſhould have 200*l.* and *White* 150*l.* What Money he had in his Pocket, with his Gold Watch, they were to divide between them; all which being fully ſettled between them, they immediately went about their bloody Work, the Captain ſtanding Centry with his drawn Sword in one Hand and a Piſtol in the other, to kill the firſt Perſon who ſhould offer any Oppoſition to what they were about. The firſt Thing they did was, to take one of Sir *John*'s Handkerchiefs; *White* held his Hands, while *Mahony* put it about his Neck, and each pull'd as hard as he could in order to ſtrangle him at once; but Sir *John* making a deſperate Struggle, they could not effect it ſo as to prevent his crying out *Murder! Murder! for Chriſt's ſake don't kill me; take all I have, but ſave my Life, dear Brother. What! muſt I die? help! help! Murder! &c.* Whereupon *Mahony*, to prevent any more Noiſe, ſnatch'd up a Cord that was laid ready by the Captain, in caſe the other Way did not effect his Death, and ſlipping off the Handkerchief, put the Cord about his Neck, which had a Nooſe at the End, holding the Cord in one Hand, thruſting the other Hand in his Throat, and his Knee againſt his Stomach. *White*, in the mean while, held his Hands, and took out of his Pocket eight

Guineas

Guineas and a Gold Watch, giving him at the same Time a great Damn, swearing, *Was that all the Money he had?* Thus after a long Struggle with the Agonies of Death, which lasted in all about forty Minutes, (including the Time they were endeavouring to strangle him with his Handkerchief) in which Sir *John* lost Abundance of Blood, which issued both from his Mouth and Nose, he fell a Sacrifice to the cruel Vengeance of a blood-thirsty Brother, by the Hands of two inhuman Villains.

The Work being finish'd, *White* goes directly to the Captain and shews him his Brother's Watch and Money. The Captain ask'd them, *Whether the Job was quite compleated?* and when they had satisfied him that it was, he gave *White* his Brother's Gold Watch, and *Mahony* the eight Guineas and a silver Watch out of his own Pocket. He gave them likewise what Money he had in his own Pockets, and ordered them to get ashore directly, that they might more easily make their Escape before Day-light came on.

The Cooper and his Wife happened to be in the next Cabin, and, by the help of an open Crevice, saw the whole Transaction, and have made Depositions accordingly; as hath likewise the first Lieutenant Mr. *Barry*, who has at present the Command of the Ship, that he saw the Captain stand Centry, as above. But if the Murder had not been thus luckily discovered, it would have been found out after

the following Manner; for Mr. *Smith* (the Gentleman at whose House they dined the Day before) accidentally heard that Evening, that a Person who had the Appearance of a Gentleman, was hurried in a very violent Manner over *College-Green*; and that a Gentleman, who by the Description given of him, perfectly answered to the Person of the Captain, assisted; and Mr. *Smith* knowing the Ship was to sail the first fair Wind, and remembering that they went out of his House near together, it came directly into his Head, that the Captain had took him on Board with an Intent to destroy him, when he came upon the High Seas. This Suspicion being strengthened by other Circumstances, made so deep an Impression on his Mind, that early in the Morning he applied himself to the worshipful *Henry Cavendish*, Esq; the Mayor, for an Officer to go and search the Ship, before she was sailed out of the Liberty of the City (which reaches ten or fifteen Miles down the River). The Officer the Mayor thought fit to send was the Water-Bailiff, with proper Assistance, and full Orders to search the Ship for Sir *John Dinely Goodwin*. The Officer obeyed his Orders, and coming to the Ship, the Cooper, his Wife, and Lieutenant *Berry*, acquainted him, that they had been just consulting about the Affair, and discovered to him what they knew of the whole Matter, the Captain being then [illegible] in his Cabin. The Water-Bailiff [illegible] sent

ſent this Account to the City Magiſtrates, who thought proper to reinforce him with a ſtrong Guard to ſecure the Captain; but before the Guard came, the Cooper, with the Aſſiſtance of the firſt Lieutenant, had done the Buſineſs (which he effected by the following Stratagem): He broke open his Cheſt, took out his beſt Things, and then went boldly and knock'd at this Cabin Door: The Captain aſk'd, *who was there?* He anſwer'd, *'Tis I; the Cooper, and pleaſe your Honour.* The Captain aſk'd him, *what he wanted?* He reply'd, *I am rob'd; my Cheſt is broke open, and I am come to your Honour for Juſtice:* The Captain thereupon open'd the Door, and told him, *he ſhould have Juſtice:* The Cooper immediately took the Opportunity, and ſeiz'd him, and was immediately aſſiſted by the Lieutenant and ſeveral ſtout Sailors, who looking about, to their Horror and Surprize, ſaw the dead Body of Sir *John Dineley Goodere*; and by evident Tokens that he had been murder'd by the violent Means of Strangling. After they had ſeen'd him, the Weſt-Country Gentleman demanded his Body to be deliver'd to him; which the Lieutenant at firſt refuſed, as ſuppoſing it muſt be deliver'd to the Lords of the Admiralty. But being informed that the Fact was committed within the Liberties of the City and County of *Briſtol*, as well as within the Power and Cognizance of the City Magiſtrates, he not only delivered up the Body, but plac'd out ſome of the ſtouteſt Fellows on board

board his Ship, as a Guard to conduct the Captain up to *Briſtol*, who all the Way call'd for Wine to make them drink.

It ſeems very remarkable, that among all the Perſons concern'd in this dark Affair, there was but one *Engliſhman* let into the Secret, for the reſt were all *Iriſh*, and belong'd to the *Virtue* Schooner. This Man belonged to the Captain's Ship, as well as *Mahony* and *White*, and was appointed to aſſiſt *Mahony* and *White* in the bloody Scene of Sir *John*'s Murder; but that Night he, by ſome Means or other, got ſo drunk, that they could not waken him, nor get him out of his Hammock (a lucky drunken bout, that ſav'd his Neck from the Halter) ſo that the Captain was forced to officiate in his Place.

The Captain was immediately brought up to the Council-Houſe; and after a very long Examination, in which he deny'd his having any Hand in the Murder of his Brother, pleading much his Innocency, (notwithſtanding the Fact was ſo plain againſt him) he was committed to *Newgate*; where he behaved with much outward Chearfulneſs and Unconcern.

This unparallel'd Scene of Barbarity (according to *Mahony*'s voluntary Confeſſion) was concerted between him and the Captain ſome Time before; and, in all Probability, the Death of Sir *John* had been before contriv'd by this bloody-minded Fellow, had he had a convenient Opportunity. And ſo little Effect had

blood *Mahony*'s

Mahony's Cruelty upon him, that whilſt his Irons were putting on, he ſaid, he did not care if he was to be hanged To-morrow, provided he could have a Prieſt to give him Abſolution.

Mahony was apprehended at his Lodgings in *Chriſtmas-ſtreet* the ſame Day, with a great Quantity of Money about him. *White* was taken at the *Rockwell-Boat* on *Briſtol Back*, who having ſome Notice of his being enquired after, gave his Money, and Sir *John*'s Gold Watch to his Landlady, one *Sarah Culford*, whoſe Huſband is ſince committed to *Newgate*, on Suſpicion of being ſome Ways concerned in the Fact. The Perſons who were out to apprehend him, having ſome Grounds to ſuſpect that ſhe had the Watch, ſearched the Houſe, but finding none, and yet perſuaded that ſhe had it, took her before the Mayor, before whom ſhe was examined, but ſtoutly denied that ſhe knew any thing of the Watch or Money, and carried the Matter ſo far, that ſhe ſeemed to reſent it very highly, that ſhe ſhould be queſtioned about an Affair of this Kind. A Perſon of her Acquaintance ſtanding by, ſeeing her ſo inflexible, and yet believing ſhe was guilty, undertook to manage her. Accordingly, he withdrew with her, and uſing the beſt Arguments he could think of, which he ſtrengthened with two or three Oaths, ſhe at length confeſs'd, that ſhe had the Money and the Watch, which ſhe had thrown into the Neceſſary Houſe. Upon which

Perſons

Perſons were ſent to the Place, who plaiſted upon the Vault, and, after a diligent Search, found the Watch and Money in the ſame Place where the ſtranger'd it was. Upon this the was ſent to *Newgate*; but a Gentleman who knew her, with ſome Difficulty, prevailed on the Magiſtrates to admit her to Bail in a large Recognizance.

Mabery had for three Weeks paſt been under the Care of one Mr. *Ford* an Apothecary for the foul Diſeaſe; who when he had perfected a Cure, *Mabery* told him he had a private Jobb in Hand to do for the Captain, for which he was to have 200 *l.* and his Diſcharge, and then he would reward him handſomely for his Trouble. This Mr. *Ford* the Apothecary has depoſed upon Oath.

The Silver Watch which the Captain had given to *Mabery*, when he brought him Word the Murder was compleated, was a very remarkable one; for on the Dial Plate, inſtead of the twelve Figures was the following Letters, *Death Divides*; and this Watch is now in the Poſſeſſion of a Gentleman of *Briſtol*, in order to be produced on the Trial. The Affair of the Watch is ſo very odd, that many different Conjectures are raiſed, but the moſt probable are, that as the Captain intended the Death of his Brother, he had this Watch made, on purpoſe that when he looked on it, it might remind him of his Intentions.

A material Thing we have forgot to mention in its proper Place relating to the Discovery of this horrid Affair, is, that a Letter was sent, wrote with Capt. Goader's own Hand, and directed to Mr. Garret Smith, Attorney at Law, on Colers Green, Bristol, purporting, That to his (the Captain's) great Surprize, he had discovered that his Brother Sir John had been murder'd by two Ruffians, and that the Villains suspected were supposed to have got away. This confirm'd Mr. Smith, who is Brother to Sir John Smith in his Suspicion, and the Captain being seiz'd, as before-mentioned, was brought before the Mayor at the Town Hall, as has been related, where a great many of the Aldermen and Magistrates of the City were also assembled. As soon as the Captain was brought into the Hall, instead of being shocked at what he had done, he appeared very chearful and alert, bowing and crossing to the Mayor, and each of the Magistrates as he knew them. They all told him they were sorry he should be brought on such an Affair. His Worship said, I am [illegible] Gentlemen, that you [illegible] me and Charge for this Matter, here I am ready [illegible] Charge of [illegible] that his Brother was murdered; then [illegible] sent to Mr. Smith was produced, which he gave [illegible] Answers to the

Questions as were ask'd relating to that Letter, and said, *The worst you can do is to commit me, and I find I shall stand committed; but it's a very great Hardship on an innocent Man, who because his Brother has been kill'd, must right or wrong be his Murderer, and I hope I shall one Day have it in my Power to punish those who do me this Injustice.*

On his being committed to *Newgate*, he told the Keeper that he should not long be his Prisoner, for that he would bail it; but when the Coroner's Inquest had found him guilty of Wilful Murder, as well as his Accomplices, and he was told that his Case was not bailable, he seemed somewhat concerned. He afterwards had recourse to another Expedient to get his Liberty, for a Servant of the Captain's, who waited on him, was one Day discovered in carrying two Cutlaces to his Master, and other Instruments, with which 'tis thought he intended to take some desperate Measures to escape, though others imagine that his Intent was to lay violent Hands on himself. However, such Precautions are now taken, he is so closely watch'd, that he can neither escape, or make away with himself.

It has been proved by an Affidavit before the Magistrates, That the Captain ordered a Dinner to be got ready at the *White Hart* on *College-Green* for the six Men who fired at Sir *John*, and they din'd there the very Day he was carried on board the Ship. After

Dinner,

Dinner, the Captain sent Word to the Master of the House, that he should make Tea for the Men; at which the Lords greatly [illegible] for Jack Tars. But this is now easily accounted for; his Design in ordering Tea was, that the Fellows should not get intoxicated. For as Sir Yelv[illegible] stayed longer in Mr. Smith's House than the Captain expected, he was obliged to confine them in the House, because it was so haunted, the Balcony of the Room they dined in being opposite the Horse-Guards, that they would have Noise in a Minute, even was Search to seize Sir Yelv[illegible]; however they did accordingly, and burned him about; this the Captain's Design ought be put in Execution.

Mr. [illegible], confcious of his Guilt, so well circumstanced, and countenanced by such undeniable Testimonies, has resolved, at present, to the Credit and Interest of his Friends. He has sent, with that Design, to two Members of the honourable House of Commons, one of them his distant Relation, that it is not to be imputed that Persons of Character and Reputation would appear in Print, especially when it is to vindicate an Action so contrary to all Laws Divine and Human; therefore the two Gentlemen have refused the printing his Letter, and leave him to the Equity of the Judges,

him?

before whom nothing but Innocence can plead in his Favour.

Some Commanders of Capt. Goodere, and of the two Romans employ'd by him to murther his Brother, three other of their Accomplices, viz. *Charles Bryant*, *Edward Mac Daniel*, and *William Plummer*, who had assisted in forcibly taking and carrying the deceased on board the *Tory* in *King-Road*, have also been committed to *Bristol* Gaol, where they are all to be tried next Session before the Recorder and Magistrates, a Habeas Corpus for their Removal to *London*, to fruitlessly insisted upon by Mr. *Goodere*, in order to be bailed, if he could, at the King's Bench Bar at *Westminster*, having been refused as illegal and unprecedented, in such Cases.

The Captain's Design, in all appearance, the better to palliate his Crime, if guilty, is, to plead his former Character and Reputation, and bring, perhaps, Perfons of Credit to appear to both; for in fact, the Captain is a Gentleman well related at *Barbados*, where he was the Commander of the Brigade, and has a good Estate there, but, as my Lord Chief Justice *Hale* justly observes, in a Criminal Case, Quality is not to be regarded, for the Law knows no Respect of Persons. Like Cæsar's Wife, it ought to have not even a Suspicion of Crime; and whatever he may be in other Respects, a good Gentleman, and a brave Officer, he is now in the Gally of the Fish he thinks unfit for Food, but

Some

Some Reflections on the foregoing Trial.

[redacted] Crime of this Nature, attended with so many aggravating Circumstances, and which the Almighty has punished, in the World's Infancy, with the greatest Severity, is capable to revolt Nature itself, would excite some Sort of Indignation in the greatest Profligate; and seem to cry to Heaven for a just Vengeance adequate to it; a Fratricide perpetrated in cold Blood, and after the most mature Deliberation; a Brother to dye his murdering Hands with the same Blood, which, at the very Time of that inhumane Action, ran in his own Veins, and ravith a Life which had the same Origin with his, both born from the same tender Parents, and both sprung from the same mutual Source. What Cruelty!

These Reflections are not with a design to aggravate the Offence of the unhappy Criminal; on the contrary, we could wish, the Divine Providence had drawn a Veil on that

Scene

Scene of Iniquity soon after it had been perpetrated; and, by having bid from us the Enormities of an Action [illegible] to the Offender a longer Time to expiate his Crime, and appease an [illegible] God: but since it is otherwise, and we have taken upon us to inform the Publick of the Fact, attended with all its barbarous Circumstances, we are to paint it in the strongest Colours, the better to deter others, perhaps as naturally inclined, from following so cruel an Example.

The imperfect Sketch we gave [illegible] Life of the deceased, is a sufficient [illegible] we don't pretend to excuse the Irregularity of his Conduct, which all those must know, can but condemn; but this Faults were Personal, most of them proceeding from his naturally morose Temper, or occasioned by his want of Education. The Punishment thereof was reserved to the Almighty, and to him alone; but if even they had been Capital, [illegible] was not appointed his Judge, much less his Executioner. Captain Gardner lived with more Reputation, had acquired a greater Character, and was better respected than his Brother, who, on the contrary, was hated for the Licentiousness of his Life, and his [illegible] nality; therefore the Probity of the one should have deter'd him from committing a Crime which could eclipse all his Virtues at once, and render him more infamous to all Posterity than

5

than the other could ever be by a ſtill greater Number of Vices and Imperfections: If Sir *John Dinely* was not fit to live, Mr. *Goodere* ſhould have loſt the Diſpoſal of his Life, to the ſame Supreme Being from whom he had received it, and not anticipated on his Sovereign *Juriſdiction*; if he had cut the Intail off his Eſtate, it was an Act of Injuſtice to be rectified by the known Laws of the Land, not by him; elſe what would become of the Civil Society, if every Member was permitted to do himſelf Juſtice for all the Wrongs done him? And why ſhould we have Judges, if it was not to determine or adjuſt all our Differences?

Mr. *Goodere* had been more excuſable if he had committed this ſame barbarous Fact in the Exceſs of a violent Paſſion, but ſo much Time elapſed, ſince the fatal Moment he could have been provoked to it, condemn him before God and Man; beſides, he was not reduced to Deſpair, or left deſtitute by that unjuſt Deed of his Brother; he was in Favour, and had a tolerably good Eſtate of his own; therefore if any thing can excuſe him, it is that it might be reaſonably preſumed that when that barbarous Action was committed, he had loſt his Senſes, or made a Divorce with his Reaſon; which I hope will be the Opinion of his Judges, whenever he is brought to his Trial; that he may have a longer Time to blot out with his Tears, that Crime, which otherwiſe muſt be expiated by his Death.

Nothing

Nothing elſe ſhould plead in his Favour; the Clemency of his Prince, the Nobility of his Extraction, the Intereſt of his Friends, and all other Conſiderations ſhould be ſilenced by the Atrocity of his Crime, which if once excuſed in the Great, would excite a juſt Jealouſy among the Vulgar, who would then have ſome Reaſon to complain, that an Offence is not puniſh'd for its Enormity, but the unjuſt Difference made by partial Judges between the Perpetrators. For the Good of the Commonwealth, and the Security of our Fortunes, we puniſh with the greateſt Severity thoſe, who, often reduced to an extreme Neceſſity, invade our Property, which is but a tranſitory Injury, and ſometime but a trifling one; ſhould we then ſpare a Murderer, or an Aſſaſſin, who deprive us, at once, of what's the moſt dear to us, our Life, which is an irreparable Loſs?

Nothing

[redacted]

A Brief Account OF THE LIFE Of the late Sir *John Dinely Goodere*, Bart.

[redacted]HAT our Readers may have a short historical Relation of the Deceased, as well as of his Brother (the Subject of this Pamphlet) they may depend on what is here said as a genuine Account of Matters of Fact: But to proceed. The late Sir *John Dinely Goodere*, was a *Here-*

fordſhire Baronet, and was the Fourth Son of Sir *Edward Goodere*, who was the Defcendant as a Baronet of the preſent Family. The ſaid Family formerly had enjoy'd [illegible] Knighthood, and had been of conſiderable Note and Eſteem in their reſpective Counties. His Father Sir *Edward Goodere*, was created a Baronet of *Burbope* in *Herefordſhire* (the Seat of the Family) in the Sixth of Queen *Anne*; and afterwards had the Honour to ſet in the Houſe of Commons, as Knight of the Shire for the County of *Hereford*. Before the Death of Sir *Edward*, a Perſon nam'd *Dixely* and a Relation, who was poſſeſs'd of a very plentiful Fortune, and who liv'd near *Eveſham* in *Worceſterſhire*, having a great Reſpect for the late Sir *John*, made him his Heir, on Condition that he ſhould change his Name; for which Purpoſe he obtain'd an Act of Parliament. Sir *John* when young was not very tractable, ſo that his Father ſent him a Voyage to the *Eaſt Indies*, and he had ſailed to ſeveral other Parts of the World, having been at Sea ſome Years. As he could not learn much Gentility on Ship-board, when he return'd to his Father (who had ſome Thoughts of getting him a Commiſſion in the Royal Navy) he expreſs'd his Diſlike at being ſent from Home, and declared he would never more go to Sea; and 'tis ſaid, his Father, on this Declaration of his, told him, he was more fit for a Boatſwain than to enjoy the Title of Baronet.

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On the Death of Sir *Edward* and Mr. *Dineley* of *Worcestershire*, Sir *John*, to whom the Title of Baronet devolv'd in Right of his Father, had a very pretty Estate, when his Father's, and that for which he had changed his Name were both joined together. It is said, that he was possessed in the Counties of *Hereford* and *Worcester* of upwards of 4000*l.* *per Annum*; but we are assured, that his Income was a good 3000*l.* Sir *John*, about the Age of twenty three, married a *Bristol* young Lady, the Daughter of a Merchant of that City, who gave her a Fortune of upwards of 20,000*l.* But, notwithstanding the large Estate Sir *John* was possessed of, added to the Dowry brought him by his Wife, yet he could not make himself happy. His Dislike to Matrimony soon discovered itself; and his Lady perceived he had not that Respect for her, which she deserved. He had one Son by his Lady, who died before he came of Age; and 'tis told by Persons of undoubted Credit, who knew it as Matter of Fact, that at the Funeral Sir *John* drove the Hearse that carried the Corpse to the Place of Interment.

His Lady seeing herself despised, could not brook it; and began to look on her Husband as a Person that had not used her in the Manner she expected; but Sir *John*, to countenance his Behaviour, found out an Expedient to be even with her, and his neareſt Relations also; for soon after the Death of his Son, he

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cut off the Intail of his great Estate except about 600l. *per Annum*, which was not in his Power to dispose of, and made his Will in Favour of his Sister's two Sons; which Sister, who is now living, married Mr. *Thomas Fost* a very eminent Attorney, at *Truro*, in the County of *Cornwall*. His Brother *Samuel*, finding in what Manner Sir *John* had bequeath'd his Estate, began to be very uneasy, and several Years ago talk'd in publick Company, that he was a Scoundrel to behave in such a Manner to his Family. But if he retained any Animosity against his Brother (as 'twas generally believ'd he did) it was suppos'd to have been near forgot, as the Captain had lately a very good Provision made for him on his being appointed Commander of the *Ruby*, a fifty Gun Ship.

The domestick Jarrs in Sir *John*'s Family were fomented to such a Degree some Years ago, as laid a Foundation for all the Miseries and Misfortunes which have since occur'd; for one Sir *Robert Jason*, a neighbouring Baronet, who came pretty frequently to visit Sir *John*, was suspected of Familiarity with the Lady *Dineley*. Sir *John*'s Suspicions were rais'd to such a Degree, that he forbid Sir *Robert* his House: But whether there were any real Grounds for this Suspicion, or if meere Ill Nature and Jealousy, will be seen by the Sequel. However, the Consequence was, that Sir *John Dineley Goodere* brought an Action in the Court of Common Pleas at *Westminster* against

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Sir *Robert Jeffes* for criminal Conversation, and laid his Damages at 2000 *l.* That Cause was brought to an Issue in that Court, and several Persons, either Tenants or Servants of Sir *John*, were brought up to Town to give Evidence on the Trial. This Affair, as it was a Case at that Time of Day not so common as it has since been, made a great Noise both in Town and Country, among all Degrees of People.

It was sworn, on the Trial, by a Tenant of Sir *John Dinely's*, that he saw Sir *Robert* and the Lady in a very indecent Posture behind a Hay Rick, and he came so near the Point in Question, that the Jury, on his Testimony, which was supported by many corroborating Circumstances of other Witnesses, gave the Plaintiff a Verdict, and 500 *l.* Damages, which was afterwards paid by the said Gentleman to Sir *John*.

Since the Death of Sir *John*, the Talk of this Affair of the criminal Conversation, has been revived in the Country; and it is said, that the very Person who was the principal Evidence, as before related, and who died a few Years since, declared on his Death Bed, that he was persuaded by the Devil to forswear; and that his Reward was to have three Lives in a Farm, which let at more than 70 *l.* a Year; but that after the Job was done, the Performance of the Promise was [illegible]

differently observ'd, and the Man never received what he expected.

The next Step taken by Sir *John* to the Disadvantage of his Lady, was his indicting her for a Conspiracy to take away his Life; which was try'd at the Court of King's Bench, and a Maid Servant was the principal Evidence, and she (the Lady) was found guilty, and the next Term was brought to the Bar and received the Judgment of the Court, which was, That she should stand committed to the King's Bench Prison for twelve Months, and pay a small Fine. While she remained in Prison, he petitioned for a Divorce, but she being assisted with Money by Captain *Goodere* and other Friends, oppos'd it so strong, that the House of L—ds were of Opinion, that it could not be granted, and so dismiss'd the Petition.

The Captain's View in furnishing the distressed Lady with Money, as he himself told Sir *John*, was, that he should not marry a young Woman, and thereby beget an Heir to the Estate; and this was one of the principal Motives that induc'd Sir *John* to leave the greatest Part of the Estate to his Sister's Sons, as has been already mentioned.

It is very certain, that Sir *John* had a great many Faults, and a good deal more might be said of them; but as it is not our Design to rake in the Ashes of the Dead, we leave every one to their private Opinion, and pass over in silence any further

further Mention of him, only that an Action was brought againſt him by the late Maſter of the *Golden Lyon* Sponging Houſe, for his Lady's Board and Diet while ſhe remained a Priſoner there; but as it appeared to the Jury, that in the Demand made by the Plaintiff, there were ſeveral Articles in the Bill of Diet for Viſitors who came to the Lady, the Jury found a Verdict for the Defendant, with Coſts of Suit.

By the Death of the late Sir *John Dineley*, an Eſtate of 500 *l.* a Year, devolves to the Lady *Dineley* his Widow, not as a Jointure, but as an Eſtate of her own; which Sir *John*, while living, kept in his own Hand; and which, 'tis to be hoped, my Lady will make better Uſe of than her paſt Conduct can make us ſuppoſe; for if we believe a ſatyrical World, which is often very partial, and ſometimes miſtaken in its Conjectures, her Life has not been always agreeable to the Rules of the ſtricteſt Modeſty and Virtue.

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